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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

Bob Bo Ling Lee
3733 Quintara St.
San Francisco, CA 94116

December 17, 1997

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RECEIVED
JAN 21 1998
FCC MAIL ROOM

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

*Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No.
96-61*

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. *[Name of entity]* writes to support the Petition.

[Describe entity and provide specific examples of how entity uses/has tried to obtain such information]

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

Consumers of long distance services, both residential and small business, rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services they need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousands of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

Consumers traditionally have served as the FCC's watchdogs over certain practices of the long distance industry. For example, the Communications Act prohibits carriers from charging consumers in rural and other high-cost areas higher rates than those charged to consumers in urban and other lower-cost areas. Absent the public availability of pricing information, however,

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[Entity] thus fully supports the Petition and urges the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Very truly yours,

[Name and Address]

E-mail this support letter to the FCC Commissioners

Please contact **Kimberly Sierk at (415) 356-2188** if you are interested in submitting a brief letter to the FCC or would like to receive more information on this important issue.

Home Page

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange
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Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. Planet U, Inc. writes to support the Petition.

Planet U, Inc. is an interactive consumer marketing company whose needs for publicly disclosed long distance pricing information is significant. We are a small start-up company that must monitor our costs constantly. In the past year, we have already changed long distance carriers 3 times throughout our various offices in the U.S. The primary reason for the changes was cost, and we depended greatly on pricing comparisons made available freely to us.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

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Planet U, Inc.thus fully supports the Petition and urges the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Very truly yours,
Mitsie O'Brien
mitsie@planetu.com

Planet U
333 Bryant St., Suite 330
San Francisco, CA 94109

January 14, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

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Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

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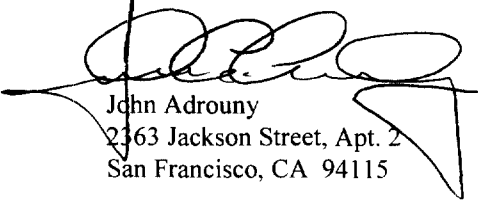
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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,



John Adrouny
2363 Jackson Street, Apt. 2
San Francisco, CA 94115

December 17, 1997

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

FCC

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. Walter R. Johnson writes to support the Petition.

I have a small business and research for the best possible telecommunications rates as I would for any product or service. The elimination of this access would hamper my efforts as a small business owner to do everything possible to be competitive.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

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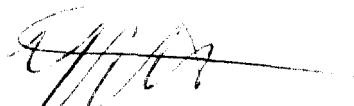
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Walter Johnson thus fully supports the Petition and urges the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Walter R. Johnson Sr.
29 Davis Rd.
Tyngsboro, MA 01879

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JAN 21 1998
FCC

January 8, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

Sonya M. Rance (SONYA M. RANCE)
17 Berkeley Way
San Francisco CA 94131-2517

January 8, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ms. Magalie Román Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
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Thank You,

 Carol Asuncion
1869 Nash Drive
San Mateo, CA 94401

January 8, 1998

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank You,



CHRISTINA KWAG
1704 FRANCISCO ST., #E
Berkeley Ca 94703

January 14, 1998

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank You,

Daniel Wolff
240 20th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

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January 14, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
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As a consumers of long distance services, I rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services I need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

Consumers traditionally have served as the FCC's watchdogs over certain practices of the long distance industry. For example, the Communications Act prohibits carriers from charging consumers in rural and other high- cost areas higher rates than those charged to consumers in urban and other lower-cost areas. Absent the public availability of pricing information, however, consumers will be hard pressed to detect such impermissible price discrimination in the first instance. Moreover, even if consumers are able to determine that a violation has occurred, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to adequately support their complaints to the FCC.

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The Commission suggests that billing and other advertising and promotional materials will be available to serve the informational needs of consumers. The is far from true. First, billing information, by definition, is only available to a carrier's existing customers and therefore is unavailable to new customers who are comparison shopping and trying to decide between carriers and services. Second, the advertising and promotional materials provided by carriers are rarely detailed enough to enable a customer to make service-to-service and carrier-to-carrier comparisons. Moreover, these materials certainly will not be specific enough to allow consumers to detect--let alone support--a claim of carrier misconduct at the FCC. In short, the information available publicly without a specific Commission requirement will fall far short to meeting consumers' need.

I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

Bw L
2206 H2nd Ave
SF. CA 94116

January 14, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
JAN 27 1998
FCC

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

As a consumer of long distance services, I rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services I need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

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The Commission suggests that billing and other advertising and promotional materials will be available to serve the informational needs of consumers. The is far from true. First, billing information, by definition, is

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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

Peter Mele
Embarcadero 5,
San Francisco
CA 94107

January 8, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

JAN 21 1998

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

Consumers of long distance services, both residential and small business, rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services they need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.


Consumers traditionally have served as the FCC's watchdogs over certain practices of the long distance industry. For example, the Communications Act prohibits carriers from charging consumers in rural and other high- cost areas higher rates than those charged to consumers in urban and other lower-cost areas. Absent the public availability of pricing information, however, consumers will be hard pressed to detect such impermissible price discrimination in the first instance. Moreover, even if consumers are able to determine that a violation has occurred, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to adequately support their complaints to the FCC.

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The Commission suggests that billing and other advertising and promotional materials will be available to serve the informational needs of consumers. The is far from true. First, billing information, by definition, is only available to a carrier's existing customers and therefore is unavailable to new customers who are comparison shopping and trying to decide between carriers and services. Second, the advertising and promotional materials provided by carriers are rarely detailed enough to enable a customer to make service-to-service and carrier-to-carrier comparisons. Moreover, these materials certainly will not be specific enough to allow consumers to detect--let alone support--a claim of carrier misconduct at the FCC. In short, the information available publicly without a specific Commission requirement will fall far short to meeting consumers' need.

I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You.


3685 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94131
(415) 643.6937

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

January 15, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace; Implementation
of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available telecommunication services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products and services I find it difficult to make an informed decision as to which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Since this information is gathered from documents obtained because of the public disclosure requirements, without such information available services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the FCC Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the FCC Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

As a consumer of long distance services, I rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services I use. The FCC has recognized already in its October 1996 order, that a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousands of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

Traditionally consumers have served as the FCC's watchdogs over certain practices of the long distance industry. For example, the Communications Act prohibits carriers from charging consumers in rural and other high-cost areas higher rates than those charged to consumers in urban and other lower-cost areas. Without publicly available pricing information, I along with other consumers will be hard pressed to detect such impermissible price discrimination. Moreover, even if consumers are able to determine that a violation has occurred, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to adequately support their complaints to the FCC.


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The Commission suggests that billing and other advertising and promotional materials will be available to serve the informational needs of consumers. I believe that this statement is far from true. First, billing information, by definition, is only available to a carrier's existing customers and therefore is unavailable to new customers who are comparison shopping and trying to decide between carriers and services. Second, the advertising and promotional materials provided by carriers are not detailed enough to enable a customer to make service-to-service and carrier-to-carrier comparisons. Moreover, these materials certainly will not be specific enough to allow consumers to detect--let alone support--a claim of carrier misconduct at the FCC. In short, the information available publicly without a specific Commission requirement will fall far short in meeting consumers' needs.

I support the Petition for Further Reconsideration filed by the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,


351
CALIFORNIA ST
SUITE 1600
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94104